

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/28/2020 6:00:00 AM

First name: Jim

Last name: Petterson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I .m writing to provide comments of the Draft EIS for the Stibnite Gold project being proposed by Midas Gold. In .addition, I wish to state my objection to permitting this project to move forward. I .am . local, full-time resident of McCall,ID .and .m very familiar with the USFS and private .areas th.t would be impacted by this project. I would rather recreation opportunities continue unaffected .and allow for ecological integrity not to be negatively impacted from this mine.

Draft EIS Comments

1. The overly complicated organization of DEIS is .atrocious .and makes .analyses very cumbersome .and time consuming. It takes going back and forth between 3 volumes and tracking down imbedded, nested references to m.ke sense of the assertion m.de in the text portions.
2. The proposed fish tunnel has never been implemented ANYWHERE ON PLANET EARTH, and there is unconvincing evidence presented to show th.t this .ppro.ch will .allow for fish passage.
3. The models used to predict fish population impacts, stream habitat changes and fish tunnel success .re unproven and the assumptions used in developing these models .are weak .and not supported by the scientific literature given in the references sections. Further their own models suggest th.t greater than 100,000 fish will be killed in the 7 miles of .analyzed .affected fish h.bit.t th.t would be permanently blocked or destroyed.
4. The di.gr.ms presented in the DEIS do not depict the true extent of the proposed physical infrastructure buildout so it gives the reviewer .an imprecise .areal extent of the destruction that would be imposed.
5. Mining companies have . long legacy of .abandoning projects without putting up enough bonding money to m.ke sure the site is restored with ecological integrity. A bond of \$ 1 Billion USD needs to be m.de before the project is approved.
6. Do you really think that putting . re-routed stream on top of waste rock will function like . natural system?
Highly doubtful.
7. Holding ponds have . very high failure rate over long time periods, due to impoundments failing and liners leaking. It is highly likely th.t this mine will result in catastrophic .aquatic pollution .and die-offs of fish and wildlife downstream of the project site.
8. True ecological restoration of the site DOES NOT HAVE TO HAVE A MINE IN PLACE TO RESULT IN A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME!
9. The supposed tax and job benefits .accruing to the local economy are overstated. Most tax revenues will leave the local .area resulting in Valley county property taxpayers covering the true costs of the project. Also, and over half the jobs will be filled by workers outside the local are., .according to Midas Gold themselves.